

Minutes, Thursday July 25, 2024

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio have requested a one-time pay incentive for the maintenance supervisor for additional management duties performed at the fairgrounds during the rehabilitation of the grandstand and the construction of the new event center..

Now be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby approve a one-time pay incentive of \$25,000 to Tim Schnipke, Maintenance Supervisor.

and be it further

RESOLVED, this one-time pay incentive will be paid for from the Putnam County General Fund, Compensation of Janitors line.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers absent

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Then/Now Purchase orders

Mr. moved to approve the then and now purchase orders.

Mr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm Mr. Schroeder Mr. Lammers

Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm Mr. Schroeder Mr. Lammers

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Purchase Orders and Travel Requests

County General.....Purchase order to Natural Design & Graphics for revamp of websites, County, Recycling, recorder and Sheriff for \$ 8,000.00. Purchase order to Dominion Energy now Enbridge for monthly usage for Aug –Dec for county bldgs. For \$ 10,000.00 for Ag Complex for \$ 8,000.00 and O-G Road for \$ 5,000.00.

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the purchase orders and travel requests.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers absent

Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Lammers

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the minutes as read from Tuesday, July 23, 2024.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers absent

Brian Hilvers and Nancy Erhart met with Commissioners Schroeder and Schlumbohm to discuss setting up a west side county squad. Mr. Schlumbohm said Brick Street contacted him and said they would not be able to give a quote for a new building as they just received an award for a large project. Technicon is still on for submitting a quote. There are about 200 more transport runs so far this year as compared to other years. There are more long-distance hospital transports. The worker shortage is everywhere. Mr. Hilvers talked to Kalida village about housing a squad. The squad would not be full time. It is thought to move Ottoville's back up squad to this location. This way it would not take a truck that would otherwise be used. There are not as many volunteers available on the east side through the day. The largest population is on the east side of the county. The three backup units that are in Grove, Ottoville and one in main office. The Ottoville unit is scheduled for a remount in January. There is another truck on order which will not be delivered until approx. 2027. Kalida will give some space out of their building to rent for staff and squad. More part time people will try to be hired. There is still a full - time spot open also. There are enough full-time people that want overtime to cover for now. Part time employees do not get insurance. The costs of more full-time employees were discussed. There is another building in Kalida that could be available that Imm's own. It would not be available for purchase until about four years. Moving a squad to Kalida's city building is a band aid. There are lifts in Imm's building that could be used to service squads also. The construction material of Imm's building was discussed. Having a squad set in Kalida would take about 8 minutes off of run time if going to Ottoville, which is important when it is life or death. There are not showers available in Kalida. The only fire station with showers is Ottawa's new station. There are many transports from the nursing homes in the county also. During the day the volunteers are hit or miss for being available, dependable available staff is needed to man the new unit. It would be a benefit if the deputies would be trained as EMT also since they are most likely the first on scene. Brian said he will need more money before the end of the year. There is a continuous 1.65 mill levy on the EMS operations, which no longer covers the operating expenses. This levy may not change with the new real estate values, that will have to be reviewed with the Auditor. There are two new vehicles in getting decals. The employees would have to report to Glandorf to clock in and then report to work in Kalida. They do get gas at the Engineer's garage so that does save on some expenses.

Nolan Croy came in to ask about installing a new pop machine on his own in the court house, since Pepsi has removed one machine and the other machine is not being serviced due to not enough sales.

Alaina Siefker let the commissioners know that she took a phone call from Rosengartens that had Woodland Acres on Road 13 to discuss a safety concern from residents out on that road. She said there is crazy driving happening with mostly motorcycles of employees going out to work on the solar project. She talked to the office lady that works in the trailer out there and she told her that their company believes that safety is a concern so they would talk to the workers. I referred her on to calling the sheriff directly to let him know what is going on out there and ask him for more patrol during those time frames they are having issues with and maybe that would be enough to deter them from the crazy driving if they started to see more law enforcement. She will call back if she doesn't get anywhere with the sheriff.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schroeder and Schlumbohm and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The minutes from Tuesday July 23, 2024 were reviewed and approved.

Craig Gephart and Wayne Korpics of Huntington Bank met with Commissioners Schroeder and Schlumbohm and Tracy Warnecke to discuss the landfill trust. The Fed will be meeting on Friday to review rates. Mr. Gephart stated there is a margin present to lower rates. If there is a mention of lowering rates the decrease will be seen in October. That margin has created large gains in the bond market. The gains are being taken now and will be returned to the equity market, which is a great opportunity. Yields will slide for savers. Fed funds Target rate is 3.8% coming down from 5.8%. That margin is creating a stir in the bond market. A sell off is starting. The target for reinvesting is 5 years out to get a higher yield. There will be a pullback on technology, a recorrect. There is always some changes especially before an election. The forecast for the next 6 months is unknown. For the county, T-bills were purchased a payout statement was not available at this time. There are some maturities this year. Would a three-year time frame be good for the county, it is more steady. The shorter term is unsteady. The last time we had a market like this was 17 years ago. The T-bills report 0% but were purchased at a 5% rate. The yield is over 5%. These do not mature until next year and it is not recommended to sell this year. Short term items to sell now and repurpose are being sought now. The core CPE is at 2.5 currently for inflation. The trading is different today than it was a few years ago. A tariff is paid for anything built in Mexico or Canada. The shipping to the west is easier than the shipping toward the east due to drought issues with the Panama Canal. Things have to be shipped down around South America and Africa. The economy just recently opened back up in China from the pandemic. The American ports are shallower than Mexico and Canada's so that contributes to the country's imports and exports. There are going to be reductions prior to the election, a lot of uncertainties coming up. There is a pull back immediately after an election also for a few days. The management fee for this account is not available at his time. It is based on service points on the balance of the account. The market performance of the account was reviewed. That Amazon started collecting county sales tax during the pandemic has helped the county to keep things balanced. The Commissioners have asked if the county can take money out of the landfill trust, that may be an EPA question. Tracy did have questions on some correspondence she received from Huntington. Based on market conditions the bank has had to change some things, in reference to daily availability. The float account holds the funds from a dividend payment until it can be reinvested. The county does not have an irrevocable trust. The best thing the US has done is building factories to start building microchips. Tiawan is only the producer. If Tiawan is attacked it could shut down the world. The earliest availability of chips in the US is 2028. The road ways are getting beat up with transporting the materials to southern Ohio due to the weight of the materials. Things are at a turning point since the pandemic.

Rev Renewables representatives Amanda Mack and Garrett Brinks stopped into introduce themselves to the Commissioners about a proposed project in Monterey Township. They are thinking about reducing the size of the project. They would like to meet with the Commissioners to discuss the project. They want to have the community involved in the planning. They showed examples of vegetative screening for their projects. Tom McCarthy previously met with the Commissioners to discuss solar projects. The Monterey township trustees have been contacted. The county's regulations need to be reviewed which will determine the size of the project. They have a cued position for a 100 megawatt project that has been submitted.

Joe Burkhart met with Commissioners Schroeder and Schlumbohm to ask about Job & Family's camera system that was put in when they moved to Glandorf and no longer works, are the Commissioners in agreement to purchase a new system. Joe will see if Job & Family will help to pay. The Commissioners are in agreement to replace the system.

Commissioners Schroeder and Schlumbohm attended a teleconference with the joint county Boards for Ottawa River and Little Ottawa River contract and rescinding assessments.

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote Schroeder yes Schlumbohm yes Lammers absent

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, July 25, 2024.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers abstain